

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

In the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 1 of the specification, please amend the paragraph as reflected in the following marked-up version of the paragraph:

*AI* This application is ~~based on~~ claims priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 to Patent Application No. 2000-347124 filed November 14, 2000 in Japan, the content of which is incorporated hereinto by reference.